

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-02

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /003 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/AGR:CRBENJAMIN:DKS

APPROVED BY: IO/SA:DTELLEEN

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R 241652Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME 8160

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FODAG AFDROUGHT

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE INFO BAMAKO FROM GENEVA ON AUG 22,
RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SWEL, ML

SUBJ: IMMEDIATE RELIEF MALI NOMADS

REF: GENEVA 4396

1. MISSION RECEIVED FOR ITS INFO COPY OF AUGUST 21 LETTER QUOTED
BELOW (WITH OMISSION UNNECESSARY WORDS) FROM
ROBERT PIERPONT, LICROSS UNDER SECRETARY
GENERAL, TO SAMUEL KRAKOW, DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
ARC. ACCORDING PIERPONT, LETTER WRITTEN AS RESULT INFO
FURNISHED AUG. 21 BY DR. GENTILS, FORMER LICROSS REP IN MALI
WHO JUST ARRIVED GENEVA. WHILE MISSION UNABLE ASSESS CONTENTS
LETTER, BELIEVE IT MERITS DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION IN VIEW
LICROSS REPUTATION FOR RESPONSIBILITY.

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2. BEGIN QUOTE.

PRIOR RECEIPT YOUR 15 AUGUST LETTER CONCERNING
DROUGHT IN MALI WE WERE CONTACTED BY MARTIN OF
U.S. MISSION TO UN IN GENEVA ON SAME SUBJECT. AT
THAT TIME WE POINTED OUT LEAGUE NO LONGER
HAD RELIEF DELEGATE IN MALI AND OUR CONTACTS WITH THE
MALI RED CROSS NOW HANDLED DIRECTLY FROM GENEVA OR
THROUGH OUR DELEGATE IN UPPER VOLTA.

3. QUOTE. WE SHOULD LIKE POINT OUT MALI RED
CROSS HAS ASSIGNED 12 NURSES TO THE TIMBUKTO AND GAO AREA, AND
FURTHER MALI RED CROSS APPEARS BE ONLY
ORGANIZATION MAKING ANY EFFECTIVE DISTRIBUTION TO DROUGHT STRICKEN
POPULATION. IT IS INDEED REGRETABLE REPORTS REACHING
US INDICATE THAT HIGH PERCENTAGE OF FOODSTUFFS CHANNELLED
THROUGH UN SOURCES TO GOVERNMENT, AND CARRIED BY US
AIRCRAFT ARE BEING SOLD AND NOT DISTRIBUTED. FOOD CONSIGNDED
TO RED CROSS IS, HOWEVER, REACHING AFFECTED PEOPLE.

4. QUOTE. IT IS OF LITTLE AVAIL TO GIVE MEDICAL CARE TO STARVING
CHILDREN WHEN THEY NEED PROTEIN ENRICHED FOOD. OUR DELEGATES
IN DROUGHT AREA STATE MISERY OF UNDERNOURISHMENT HERE
FAR EXCEEDS ANYTHING SEEN IN BIAFRA. WE BELIEVE THAT IF THE US
GOVERNMENT IS INTERESTED IN REALLY ASSISTING IN MALI IT SHOULD
CONSIDER AIRLIFTING FOOD SUPPLIES TO THE MALI RED CROSS AND WE
TRUST YOU WILL USE WHATEVER INFLUENCE YOU CAN TO BRING THIS
ABOUT. END QUOTE.

BASSIN
UNQUOTE RUSH

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